

Message Text

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47

ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-11 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20

USIA-15 IO-14 ACDA-19 DRC-01 /130 W

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R 292105Z JUL 74

FM AMEMBASSY CARACAS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5009

INFO AMEMBASSY BOGOTA

UNCLAS CARACAS 7130

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: VE CO PBOR

SUBJECT: COLOMBIA'S PRESIDENT-ELECT LOPEZ MICHELSEN

VISITS VENEZUELA

REF: A) CARACAS 7043; B) CARACAS 7095

1. PRESIDENT-ELECT ALFONSO LOPEZ MICHELSEN ARRIVED IN CARACAS 1PM JULY 27 FROM BARBADOS IN THE PERSONAL AIRCRAFT OF THE VENEZUELAN MINISTER OF DEFENSE. HE DEPARTED FOR BOGOTA AT 6PM THE SAME AFTERNOON. DURING HIS BRIEF STAY PRESIDENT-ELECT LOPEZ MET FOR TWO HOURS WITH PRESIDENT PEREZ, FOLLOWING WHICH THERE WAS A JOINTLY HELD PRESS CONFERENCE. COMMENTS MADE BY THE TWO LEADERS REGARDING CUBA ARE REPORTED BY REFERENCE B.

2. IN REGARD TO A POSSIBLE AGREEMENT BETWEEN COLOMBIA AND VENEZUELA ON THEIR DISPUTED SUBMARINE FRONTIER IN THE GULF OF VENEZUELA, LOPEZ REPORTEDLY STATED THAT HE WAS RETURNING TO COLOMBIA OPTIMISTIC ON THE POSSIBILITY OF A SETTLEMENT PRIOR TO HIS INAUGURATION AUGUST 7. PRESIDENT PEREZ REPORTEDLY STATED THAT THE NEGOTIATIONS FOR A SETTLEMENT WERE SO FAR ADVANCED THAT AN EQUITABLE ARRANGEMENT ON THE MATTER COULD BE REACHED WITH THE PASTRANA ADMINISTRATION WITHOUT THE NECESSITY OF INTERVENTION BY ANY OUTSIDE PARTY OR THE WORLD COURT.

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3. OTHER MATTERS REPORTEDLY DISCUSSED INCLUDED THE MEETING

OF LATIN AMERICAN PRESIDENTS, THE JOINT OBSERVANCE OF THE 150TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE BATTLE OF AYACUCHO, THE ANDEAN PACT, AND CONTINENTAL RELATIONS.

4. THE VISIT RECEIVED FAVORABLE PRESS ATTENTION AND COMMENT BUT WAS SOMEWHAT OVERSHADOWED BY THE CONTINUING EXTENSIVE COVERAGE BEING GIVEN TO THE STATE VISIT OF MEXICO'S PRESIDENT ECHEVERRIA.
MCCLINTOCK

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Disposition Event:
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